

**STATEMENT OF THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PATIENTS**

**The Patient's Bill of Rights:** Every patient has the following basic rights:

- 1- The patient has the right to be treated with respect and dignity.
- 2- The patient must have the assurance that all patient information, including the content of therapy sessions and the written record of treatment, is considered confidential, and may not be shared with anyone without the patient's written permission, except in situations where disclosure is required by law or court order. These exceptional situations include:
  - when the therapist believes the patient presents an imminent danger to self or others.
  - when there is reasonable suspicion of child or elder abuse or neglect.
  - when the patient is an impaired driver.
  - when a judge orders the release of the patient's record or the testimony of the therapist as part of a legal proceeding. In these specific situations, the therapist will do what he or she can, within the limits of the law, to prevent the patient from harming self or others, and to ensure that the patient receives proper care.
- 3- The patient has the right to a complete and easily understood explanation of his or her condition and treatment.
- 4- The patient has the right to participate in decisions involving his or her treatment.
- 5- The patient has the right to be informed of the consequences of refusing treatment or not complying with prescribed treatment.
- 6- The patient has the right to participate or not to participate in scientific research.
- 7- The patient has the right to file a grievance should a dispute arise over treatment or claims.
- 8- The patient has the right to know all about the terms of therapy, such as its cost, method of payment, appointment times, privacy issues, and cancellation policies.
- 9- The patient has the right to have any therapy procedure or method explained to them before it is used.
- 10- The patient has the right to end therapy at any time. After the first one or two meetings, the therapist will assess whether he or she can help the patient meet the therapeutic goals. If the therapist believes that the patient's treatment needs would be better met by another mental health provider with particular skills or experience, the therapist will recommend another provider. If at any point during treatment, the therapist determines that he or she is not being effective in helping the patient reach therapeutic goals, he or she will discuss this with the patient, and if appropriate, terminate the treatment. In such a case, the therapist will make a recommendation for another provider who may be able to help the patient address therapeutic goals.

**The Responsibilities of Patients:**

The purpose of patient's responsibilities is to ensure quality of care and proper use of health care resources. These responsibilities include the following:

- 1 -The patient should exercise courtesy and make every effort to keep scheduled appointments.
- 2- The patient must present true and accurate information when it is requested.
- 3- The patient must pay any necessary fees at the time of the appointment unless an alternative arrangement has been agreed upon.
- 4- The patient must give 24 hours advance notice, by phone, of the session cancellation. If a patient fails to show or cancels with less than 24 hours notice, the patient will be charged the following fees:
  - Therapy- \$50.00
  - Psychiatry Evaluation- \$180.00
  - Psychiatry Med Check- \$75.00